

positions in the character string;

storing the characters as a file;

selectively disabling one of the importation of recognised characters into the processor  
and the recognition of speech by said speech recognition engine for a period of time;

storing the audio data for the period of time as an audio message associated with the file;

at a later time, reading said file for input to the processor; and

allowing a user to select whether to read and playback said audio message associated with  
said file.

*C<sub>2</sub> concl.*  
~~6271.~~ (AMENDED) A universal speech-recognition interface that enables operative coupling  
of a speech-recognition engine to at least any one of a plurality of different computer-related  
applications, the universal speech-recognition interface comprising:

input means for receiving speech-recognition data including recognised words;

output means for outputting the recognised words into at least any one of the plurality of  
different [computer] computer-related applications to allow processing of the  
recognised words as input text; and

audio playback means for playing audio data associated with the recognised words.

*C<sub>3</sub> cont.*  
~~61~~  
~~72.~~ (AMENDED) The universal speech-recognition interface of claim ~~71~~<sup>60</sup>, further  
comprising:

✓ means, independent of the one [computer] computer-related application, for forming link  
data linking a portion of the audio data to at least one the recognised words  
independently of the one [computer] computer-related application, the link data  
comprising:

one or more audio identifiers which link a portion of the audio data to one or more  
recognised words; and

one or more position identifiers which link the recognised words to corresponding  
positions within the one [computer] computer-related application; and

*46*

means, independent of the one [computer] computer-related application, for updating the position identifiers in response to changes in positions of the recognised words within the one [computer] computer-related application.

62  
73.

(AMENDED) The universal speech-recognition interface of claim <sup>60</sup>~~71~~ further comprising: user operable selection means for selecting one or more of the recognised words in the one [computer] computer-related application, wherein the audio playback means is responsive to the selection means to playback [associated] audio data associated with the one or more recognised words.

C<sub>3</sub>  
concl.

63  
74.

(AMENDED) The universal speech-recognition interface of claim <sup>60</sup>~~74~~ wherein the plurality of different [computer] computer-related applications includes a wordprocessing application and at least one of a spreadsheet processing application, an electronic-mail application, a presentation application, and a computer-aided-design application.

64  
75.

(AMENDED) A speech-recognition interface that enables operative coupling of a speech-recognition engine to a computer-related application, the interface comprising: input means for receiving speech-recognition data including recognised words; output means for outputting the recognised words into a [computer] computer-related application to allow processing of the recognised words as input text, including changing positions of the recognised words; and means, independent of the computer-related application, for determining positions of the recognised words in the computer-related application.

66  
77.

(AMENDED) The speech-recognition interface of claim <sup>64</sup>~~75~~, further comprising: means, independent of the [one computer] computer-related application, for forming link data linking a portion of the audio data to at least one of the recognised words independently of the computer-related application, the link data comprising: one or more audio identifiers which link a portion of the audio data to one or more

C<sub>4</sub>  
cont.

47

recognised words; and

one or more position identifiers which link the recognised words to corresponding

positions within the computer-related application; and

means, independent of the [one computer] computer-related application, for updating the

position identifiers in response to changes in positions of the recognised words

within the [one computer] computer-related application.

C4  
concl.

✓ <sup>68</sup>~~79~~. (AMENDED) The universal speech-recognition interface of claim <sup>67</sup>~~78~~, further comprising:

C5 user operable selection means for selecting one or more of the recognised words in the computer-related application, wherein the audio playback means is responsive to the selection means to playback [associated] audio data associated with the one or more recognised words.

Respectfully submitted,

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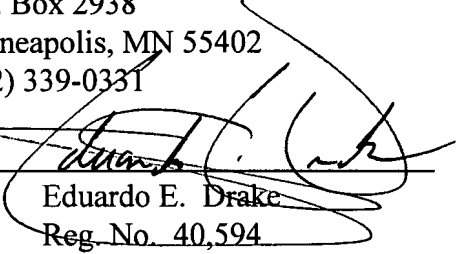
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